

GIBRALTAR MARITIME ADMINISTRATION
(Ministry of Maritime Affairs)



Watergate House
2/8 Casemates Square
Gibraltar

Tel (+350) 200 46862 / 47771 / 50424
Fax (+350) 200 47770
e-mail: maritime.survey@gibraltar.gov.qi
maritime.registry@gibraltar.gov.qi

Shipping Guidance Notice – 045

STCW Convention regulation VI/6 Mandatory minimum requirements for security-related training and instruction for all seafarers

To: Ship Owners and Operators

References:

International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended (STCW Convention)

International Ship and Port facilities Security Code (ISPS Code)

STCW Convention regulation VI/6

STCW Convention regulation VI/6 takes effect from 01 January 2014 and applies to seafarers on Gibraltar registered vessels to which the ISPS Code applies.

1. Security-related familiarisation training

Before being assigned ship board duties, all seafarers employed or engaged in any capacity on ships to which the ISPS Code applies shall receive security related familiarisation training,

The instruction shall be delivered by the Ship Security Officer or an equally qualified person and provide guidance for the seafarer to at least be able to:

- a. report a security incident;
- b. know the procedures to follow when they recognize a security threat; and
- c. take part in security-related emergency and contingency procedures.

These procedures shall be included in the Ship Security Plan and may also be included as part of the shipboard familiarisation checklist. Records of the familiarisation training shall be maintained on board.

2. Security awareness training for seafarers without designated security duties

Security awareness training is required from 01 January 2014.

This training applies to seafarers employed or engaged in any capacity on board a ship as part of the ship's complement **without designated security duties**. The Gibraltar Maritime Administration considers this to apply to all members of the deck, engine-room and catering departments on the vessel. These seafarers shall receive training as stated in Table A-VI/6-1 of the STCW Convention before being assigned to any shipboard duties.

On completion of this training the seafarer shall be able to:

- a. contribute to the enhancement of maritime security through heightened awareness;
- b. recognise security threats; and
- c. understand the need for and methods of maintaining security awareness and vigilance.
- d. provide evidence of having achieved the standard of competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities listed in table A-VI/6-1 of the STCW Convention.

There is a transitional provision for this requirement for existing seafarers (Section 2a).

2a Transitional provisions

Until 1 January 2014, seafarers who commenced approved seagoing service prior to the date of entry into force of this section shall be able to demonstrate competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities listed in Table A-VI/6-1, STCW Code. These seafarers are not required to undertake further training provided they can demonstrate they meet the requirements by:

- a. having approved seagoing service as shipboard personnel for a period of at least six months in total during the preceding three years. The seafarer's employer may issue their own certificates to seafarers confirming the seafarer has accrued the necessary sea time to fulfil this requirement; or
- c. passing an approved test (see section 5 - Training Centres); or
- d. successfully completing approved training (see section 5 - Training Centres).

3. Security training for seafarers with designated security duties

Security training for seafarers with designated security duties is required from 01 January 2014 and only needs to be given once in the seafarer's career. There is no requirement for refreshment or revalidation at this time.

This applies to every seafarer who is designated to perform security duties as stated in the Ship Security Plan. On completion of the training the seafarer shall have sufficient knowledge to perform on board designated security duties, including anti-piracy and anti-armed robbery related activities.

These seafarers shall be required to demonstrate competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities listed in Table A-VI/6-2 of the STCW Convention which includes:

- a. maintaining the conditions set out in a Ship Security Plan;
- b. recognising security risks and threats;
- c. undertaking regular security inspections; and
- d. proper use of security equipment and systems.

There is a transitional provision for this requirement for existing seafarers (Section 3a).

3a. Transitional provisions

Until 1 January 2014, **seafarers with designated security duties** who commenced approved seagoing service prior to the date of entry into force of this section shall be able to demonstrate competence to undertake the tasks, duties and responsibilities listed in Table A-VI/6-2, of the STCW Convention. These seafarers are not required to undertake further training provided they can demonstrate they meet the requirements by:

- a. having approved seagoing service **as shipboard personnel with designated security duties** for a period of at least six months in total during the preceding three years. The seafarer's employer may issue their own certificates to seafarers confirming the seafarer has accrued the necessary sea time to fulfil this requirement; or
- c. passing an approved test (see section 5 - Training Centres); or
- d. successfully completing approved training (see section 5 - Training Centres).

4. Recognising certificates issued by other Administrations

The Gibraltar Maritime Administration will recognise Certificates of Proficiency issued for security awareness training or Certificates of Proficiency for seafarers with designated security duties that have been issued by another Administration that has ratified the STCW Convention.

5. Training Centres

1. The Gibraltar Maritime Administration will recognise training centres that another Red Ensign Group member or a Recognised Organisation has confirmed that the training fulfils the STCW regulation VI/6 requirements.
2. On successfully completing the training, the training centre shall issue a Certificate of Proficiency to the seafarer.



Richard Montado
Maritime Administrator

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